

## NEWS RELEASE

## NORTH DAKOTA HIGHWAY PATROL

600 East Boulevard Bismarck, ND 58505-0240

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CONTACT: Captain Gordon La France, NDHP 328-2455

## NORTH DAKOTA HIGHWAY PATROL REACCREDITED AND RECEIVES SPECIAL RECOGNITION

The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA) awarded the North Dakota Highway Patrol its 6<sup>th</sup> reaccreditation on July 29, 2006, at the CALEA conference held in Lexington, Kentucky. The Patrol also received designation as a Flagship agency in recognition of the agency's professionalism and support of the accreditation process, and also a meritorious certificate for being involved in the accreditation process for 15 or more continuous years.

CALEA is made up of 21 commissioners, 11 representatives from law enforcement and 10 representatives from the public and private sectors. The commissioners serve three-year staggered terms and meet three times per year to accredit and reaccredit agencies involved in the process. There are 446 standards and agencies must comply with the standards based on agency size and job responsibility. The North Dakota Highway Patrol was found to be in compliance with 350 standards that were applicable to the agency. CALEA represents the best in law enforcement in North America. Twenty-five percent of full time law enforcement officers are members of agencies officially involved in the process and over 900 public safety agencies are involved in the process. The North Dakota Highway Patrol is one of 17 State Police/Highway Patrols that are accredited.

Accreditation symbolizes professionalism, excellence, and competence in the law enforcement profession. North Dakota citizens and the members of the North Dakota Highway Patrol can take pride in their department knowing it represents the very best in law enforcement.

Accreditation is for a three-year period and for the Patrol to maintain its accredited status it must submit annual reports to the commissioners.